TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NEWSLETTER

JULY, 1999

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779 SECRETARY: Becky Lee KF4HTB 267-9375
V. PRES.: Ozzie Osband N4SCY 383-9750 TREASURER: Becky Lee KF4HTB 267-9375

CLUB INFORMATION

TARC MEETINGS :	**Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs at Jaycee Building.**
TARC NETS:	**VIP - Thursdays at 1000 hrs on 146.910**
	FRIENDSHIP - Thursdays at 1830 hrs. on146.910
	MOSQUITO - Wednesdays at 1900 hrs on 28.333
TARC REPEATERS:	**VHF - 146.910 and146.970. UHF 444.150**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

You talk about a feast! Those of us who weathered the adversities and were in attendance at Fox Lake Saturday afternoon surely violated whatever diet we may have been on. Thanks to Roe, just like last year we had the pleasure of dining on fish that only he has the skills, the secret fishing hole and the wherewithal to catch and provide ample fish for a much enjoyed fish fry. Thanks to Chef Pike, W4EPU and his assistant Clara, KF4YQL, the fish were prepared and fried to the liking of all.

In addition to fish we had hushpuppies. Those hushpuppies were so tasty that Clara, KD4YQL declined to assign me to be the protector of them, even though I pleaded with her to let me watch over them.

TARC ladies to whom we owe big thanks for their preparation and/or contribution of food are as follows:

Pat-KF4LTY; Becky-KF4HTB; Sherry-KU4ZO Theresa-WB4ZUZ; Clara KE4YQL; June-FK4IGO; Patty-KF4MUV; Lorna-KE4WJW; Mike-KE4YGT and Amanda-not yet. Amanda has passed Element 2 and is studying Element 3A. She will be a Technician soon. By the way. Mike is not a lady, but Sherry says he sure knows how to cook hot dogs.

Saturday morning for breakfast Miss Sherry treated us to biscuits, gravy, sausage and scrambled eggs. Sunday morning three ladies - Loran KE4WJW, Pat KF4LTY (see page 2)

(continued from page 1) and Sherry KU4ZO prepared French toast, hash scrambled eggs and bacon.

Coffee and sodas were provided by Theresa, WB4ZUZ and were available the entire period. Ice and fan came from Bill Canfield, KF4PGU

Mike and his dad Roger, KE4TRE have come up from Melbourne for the sixth year in a row. Those two are the first ones at the Field Day site and the last ones to leave. They do everything from erecting antennas to securing power from a pavilion 300 yards away. Guys, we are indebted to you.

Tom, WA4QJK, the owner of several sky hooks (the likes of which I have never seen) was kind enough to provide and install two such devices for us to use during the event. Thanks, Tom!

It has been proposed that a moment of silence be dedicated to the following incident: Sunday morning at approximately 9:15 AM at Fox Lake Park there were two eyewitnesses to a hideous deed. Should you be desirous of the details of this dastardly deed, the best source for information would be the eyewitnesses. I have not been given permission from these two witnesses to print their names, but in an effort to keep you advised, the witnesses are John, KE4ZPA and Roger, KE4TRE. I hope John and Roger will not be angry with me for divulging their identities. These two star witnesses may decide not to talk, but my guess is that the investigation will be over by the next meeting and hopefully all known facts can be given out at the July 27 meeting.

On the 4th of July there will be a need by the city for volunteers to assist in being the eyes and ears of the city at Sand Point Park. You and your family can be a part of this all day event. If you can come down and join us we will be glad to have you serve with us.

Also, don't forget the fireworks that will take place July 4th beginning just after sundown. Come down and enjoy the fun.

Have a happy and safe holiday. See you at the July 27 club meeting.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Below is a copy of a letter sent to Don Renninger (brother of John Renninger, KE4ZPA). This equipment is valued at $700 to $1000.

Mr. Don Renninger
4015 Grantline Rd.
Mims, FL 32754

Dear Bob,

TARC is grateful to you for the donation of the power inverter. This inverter, with its output of 115 V AC and input of 24 V DC, will be used at the 146.910 repeater in case of an emergency.

Why don't you attend a meeting with John and Pat so that everyone can meet you and thank you in person?

Sincerely,

Becky Lee

NOTICE

PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE TAKEN FOR I.D. BADGES AT THE JULY MEETING. THOSE OF YOU WHO DO NOT HAVE AN I.D. BADGE SHOULD MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO AT THE MEETING SO YOURS WILL BE READY IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY. RALPH, AE4LE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JULY BIRTHDAYS

JUL. 3 KE4OWJ DAVID BURDICK

JUL. 4. N1YXL THOMAS KELLY

JUL. 8 W4NMB HOLLAND STARKEY

JUL. 8 WN3DHI ARCHIE SHETLER

JUL. 9 KD4JBL WILLIE WILLIAMS

JUL. 10 KS4DW CLARA LARABEE

JUL. 10 WB9MFJ LARRY CARR

JUL. 11 KF4IGN DORIS GIONET

JUL. 14 W2TRX WALTER FANTON

JUL. 17 KF4IGP JOANNA BLUM

JUL. 18 KU4LA JOE TIPTON, SR.

JUL. 21 KC4RUF THOMAS RAC

JUL. 23 KT4UD LEONARD ZBIEGIEN

JUL. 24 KE4AGH VERN ANDREWS

JUL. 25 KC4YDP JERRY RICHARDS

JUL. 27 KF4KUN SAMUEL DENMAN

JUL. 27 AE4CB DAVID HURST

JUL. 27 KF4NKL ROE WEAVER

JUL. 28 KE4AGM RICHARD LASURE

JUL. 28 KF4IGB PAT WIDICK

JUL. 29 WA4CUO BILL HOSKINSON

JUL. 30 WD8JLT BRIAN SONNENBERG

10-10 WHICH ONE?

From 6/99 CyberSKIP

A California Web entrepreneur has launched a Web site that aims to cut through the celebrity pitches and confusion surrounding the 10-10 "dial-around" phone plans. Richard Sayers, by day a district sales manager at Computer Currents magazine, said he got the idea for the site when he realized that despite the readily available Web data on long-distance rates, there was a dearth of information on the new 10-10 rates, which can offer variances of as much as 300 percent.

His Web site allows visitors to click on one of 91 countries and view a current list of all the current phone rates of each of 10 dial-around plans. The site, which is updated weekly as the rates change, also notes whether the plans charge a connect fee. Current rates available for a call to the Bahamas, for instance, ranged from 21 cents to $1.34 a minute. The site also provides information on state-to-state phone rates.

"There are two reasons people will go to the site. They're ready to make a phone call now or they're confused about all the hype about the 10-10 call plans," Sayers told Newsbytes.

Sayers eventually aims to attract advertisers to the site, but for now is funding the venture himself. He also plans to expand the offerings to include regular long-distance plans, local phone service rates for competitive markets, cellular phone rates and voice-over Internet phone rates and links.

Another Web site offering a breakdown of the dial-around call plans, along with comparisons of long-distance, intrastate and calling card rates, is http://www.abelltolls.com which bills itself as an (see page 4)

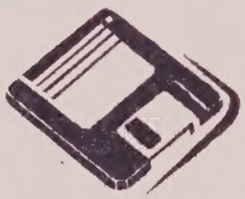
(Continued from page 3) independent and comprehensive telephone services clearinghouse. The site also offers free e-mail updates of rates and provides links to the Web sites of telephone carriers.

End your confusion and save money. Check out http://10-10PhoneRates.com

SHAREWARE REVIEWS

By Ronnie Cohen, K4GHG

From 6/99 CyberSKIP



RGS-Radiomaster is a tool box of HAM applications. The program features log books, an antenna designer, Morse code tutor, reference data and much more. It will run on any IBM based system, with DOS version 3.3 or higher and a hard drive.

RadioMaster comes with a HAM and Short-wave log book. In the HAM log book there are nine fields for standard log information and a comment field for reminder notes. The log book holds up to 32,000 entries. You may choose to print one entry or all your contacts in the form of QSL label cards. With the Short-wave log book you may keep track of the short-wave station date. You may use RadioMaster to design a Yagi, Vertical, Dipole, Quad, or Long Wire antenna or to solve electronic equations. Enter an antenna design frequency and the program calculates Yagi element lengths, spacing and gains. Or enter a design frequency and the diameter for a dipole antenna and the program calculates element lengths for standard, long or folded dipoles. The electronics calculator solves Ohm's law equations. This calculator will also calculate parallel and series resistance and capacitance. In addition, the calculator calculates coil and capacitance resistance. The registered version of RadioMaster includes additional antenna designs and a more powerful electronic calculator.

RadioMaster includes a Maximum Useable Frequency (MUF) and Lowest Useable Frequency (LUF) calculator. Enter transmission and receiving latitude and longitudes, and the program plots MUF/LUF on a time vs. frequency graph.

The program's Morse code generator features several user defined options. You may set code speed, tone and space between characters one at a time, sentences or random characters. In addition to sound the program displays the dits and das.

RadioMastester includes several reference lists and tools. The program comes with several frequency lists, Q-code list, country prefix lists, graphical maps to determine distances and much more. There is room for user defined lists and notes. RadioMaster also comes with a world time zone map, a maidenhead locator, screen saver and several print options. The time zone map has an interesting typo. It seems as if Tampa is now Havana.

It cost only $18.00 to register RadioMaster. Besides doing the right thing and getting the legal right to continue to use the program, registered users receive additional antenna designs, a more powerful electronic calculator, additional frequency lists, extra maps and more. After you try the programs you will see that registration is well worth the money.

For more information about RGS-RadioMaster and/or a free disk catalog and coupon, please contact Mom 'N' Pop's Software <ASP>,P.O.Box 15003-HD, Spring Hill, FL, 34609. (352) 688-9108, momnpop@gate.net

"IT SEEMS TO US..."

From 7/99 QST

Do you plan to travel this summer? Take Amateur Radio with you! It's never been easier or more fun for Amateur Radio to be your companion wherever you may go. Vacation time is a time to spend some precious hours with our families, get away from the pressures and constraints of our usual routines, and enjoy a change of scene. It's an opportunity to devote undivided attention to those interests for which there never seems to be enough time or energy after the household chores are done. In short, it's our chance to enjoy the quality of life that is the reason we labor for the rest of the year.

Vacation travel provides a wonderful opportunity to expand one's horizons. With a bit of planning, you can expand your Amateur Radio horizons at the same time. The current crop of compact, multimode HF/VHF/UHF transceivers is ideally suited for taking along with you, whether you're driving or flying to your destination. If you're driving, you even have the option of operating mobile all the way there and all the way back (provided that the other occupants of the vehicle don't conspire to leave you behind at the first rest stop).

Another enticing option is to bring along one of the wide variety of QRP rigs now available, perhaps one you've built yourself from a kit. Many QRP rigs have the additional advantages of light weight and long battery life, making them perfect for slipping into a backpack when you hit the trail. Toss in a simple wire antenna and you can talk to the world from trailside! There's something almost mystical about maintaining an ionospheric connection with civilization from a remote, pristine setting.

If you're like many hams, operating from home may be pretty frustrating. Covenants, apartment regulations, or spousal or parental restrictions limit your antenna farm.When you tune across the bands you hear more birdies from neighbors' computers and other electronic devices than DX. A vacation cottage or cabin, far away from electronic smog, may be the perfect prescription for rekindling your interest in getting on the air. There you can explore seldom-visited bands or string that killer wire array you've always wanted to try if only you had the room.

For years it's been legal to operate in Canada without applying for a license or sending any advance notification. Thanks to the United States being accepted as a participant in the CEPT Radio Amateur License (see p 81, this issue), this summer you will be able to take your gear to most European countries and French islands on a similar bases. You don't need to be rare DX to enjoy operating away from home. It will be more relaxing if you aren't! Still, it's a lot of fun to activate a seldom-heard prefix, island, county, or VHF/UHF grid square. Even checking into your regular net or roundtable from an unusual location can be a lot of fun for everyone, including the stay-at-homes.

What better time could there be to show your kids what Amateur Radio is all about, without the usual distractions and interruptions? Get them to help you put up the portable antenna. Let them listen around, in and out of the ham bands, and answer their questions about what they hear. Give them a chance at the microphone or keyboard (you did remember the laptop with the PSK31 software, didn't you?). With a bit of advance preparation you might even be able to hold a family hidden-transmitter hunt. It really doesn't matter what the activity is; what matters is that you're spending time with your kids, giving them memories they will share with your grandkids. If those memories give them good feelings about Amateur Radio, so much the better. Don't have an HF or multimedia rig (see page 6)

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike W4EPU

AIN'T THAT WEIRD!!!

The Hubbell telescope has recently peered to the very edge of our universe and made an astounding discover. It found the oldest and most distant object ever detected. The object is said to be a galaxy "fizzling with new stars". That galaxy is said to be 13 billion light years from earth. In other words, what the telescope saw was actually happening 13 billion years ago. Thus, by now it has had 13 billion years to travel much, much farther away.

But how far is 13 billion light years? Light travels 186,000 miles per second. Without boring you with the mathematics, the distance of 13 billion light years is about 76 sextillion (76 followed by 21 zeroes) miles. By some estimates, that galaxy was seen as it existed one billion years after the big bang - the colossal explosion believed to have created our universe. Assuming that the belief is correct, our universe has been and is still expanding after 14 billion years. Since no one has been able to prove that the expansion will not continue, one must assume that there is infinite space out there, to which the expansion will take place forever. Notice the reference here is to 'our' universe. You will read it here first that there may be other universes out there - many others.

Considering that there is inconceivably infinite space beyond the outer edges of our universe, who is to say that there are not other universes out there. If so, how many? One? Ten? Millions? Billions? Since there is infinite space, could there be an infinite number of Universes? And of course, if the beginning of time, as we know it, was only 14 billion years ago, light from any of those other universes has not even had time to reach us. Thus, we can only assume that they may exist.

Taking the process another step forward, let us assume that other universes out there do exist and are also expanding and will expand indefinitely. Time being without end, eventually all of the universes will run together. That is when there will be many magnanimous collisions which, even an attempt to understand, would be absolutely and totally mind boggling. Eventually everything will become one massive conglomeration.

As comedian Dave Gardener would have said, "AIN'T THAT WEIRD!"

73S ES 88S

(continued from page 5) that's small enough to take along? Your everyday FM rig can lift you out of the ranks of the ordinary tourist and introduce you to friendly locals. If you're backpacking in a remote area it may be more valuable in an emergency than a cell phone - but remember to bring along a better antenna than your usual "rubber duck," just in case.

We may not always practice what we preach here on page 9, but in this case we do. Later this summer will mark our seventh trip in ten years, each time with a complete ham station, to Prince Edward Island in eastern Canada. Each year in the bleak midwinter we begin the search for a cottage to rent for the following summer's excursion. We've rented five different cottages in different parts of the island and have never had a bad experience. The Canadians could hardly be more hospitable. They've even built a bridge to the island so we don't have to take a ferry anymore. If you hear K1ZZ/VY2, please give us a call! *Dave Summer, K1ZZ*

TREASURERS REPORT

By Becky Lee, KF4HTB

Balance forward from 1998	$6634.75
Deposits Year to Date	3105.42
TOTAL INCOME	**$9740.17**
Expenditures	4389.49
BALANCE AS AT 6/30/99	**$5350.68**
FEMA Escrow	000.00
BALANCE-CLUB FUNDS	**$5350.68**

JUNE MINUTES

By Becky, KF4HTB

After the usual opening ceremonies, Bud, K4CWG mentioned members who are ill and wished them a speedy recovery.

Bill Canfield, KF4PGU, track and cross counry coach at Astronaut High School presented a proposal for the Titusville Amateur Radio Club in reference to their participation in up coming track meets. He passed out copies of detailed agenda for each of four meets to be held on September 4, October 16, November 13 and November 20. He will keep in touch with the club and ask for specific commitments nearer to event dates.

The club was reminded that they are expected to assist at the Boy Scout Jamboree in Cocoa in October.

Bill, W2SDB played "Happy Birthday" to the June honorees.

After the break, the remainder of the meeting was taken up with Field Day plans. A budget of $200 for expenses was voted on and carried, and it was decided to change our classification from 4A to 5A.

TIP TO KENWOOD OWNERS

To order manuals for Kenwood Radios contact the following company - with your model number.

East Coast
Transistor Parts, Inc.
2 Marlborough Road
W. Hempstead, NY 11552
Tel.516-483-5742
Fax 516-483-5904

PLEASE NOTE

DUE TO A LACK OF STORAGE SPACE I CANNOT TAKE ANY MORE BOOKS AT THIS TIME.

I THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR DONATIONS. CLYDE, K4EOS

"I sometimes wonder if you hear one word I say!"

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P. O. BOX 73

TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 240 (167 regular, 56 family, 11 honorary, 5 other)

NEW MEMBERS: KB4ETY Bruce Hunter

RENEWALS: KE4AGM Richard Lasure
KV4BY Clarence Bauer
K4CWG Bud Hughes
KU4ZO Sherry Hughes
KK4EY Lee Roll
KK4EYR June Roll
KS4FB Ted Larrabee
KS4DW Clara Larrabee
KF4IGK Grant Hahne
KF4ZOK Suzan Hahne
W9LSD Dick Duel
WN4NMB Holland Starkey
KE4OZD Danny Burdick
KE4OWJ David Burdick
KE4TKC Harmony Burdick
KE4WJW Lorna Burdick
AD4PP Jerry Moskovitz
KC4VVG Walt Hart
KA4VYH Bill Young
KF4YFD John Phelps
KE4ZPA John Renninger
KF4LTY Pat Renninger

HAMFESTS:

7-24	Milton
9-11/12	Melbourne
9-25	Daytona Beach
9-26	New Port Richie
10-2	Maitland
10-2	Sunrise
10-9	Tampa
10-16	starke
10-16/17	W. Palm Beach